

BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

**W. F. CORFIELD,**

M.D., B.S., London ; M.R.C.S., England ; L.R.C.P., London ;  
D.P.H., Cambridge.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ;

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER ;

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL  
AND SANATORIUM ;

TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER AND PUBLIC ANALYST.

**1934.**



Colchester :

WILES AND SON LTD., TRINITY STREET.



BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

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BOROUGH & PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE,  
1934-35.

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THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR  
COUNCILLOR A. H. CROSS.

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN P. A. SANDERS, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

*Deputy-Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR G. W. B. HAZELL, J.P.

*Members :*

COUNCILLOR A. W. ALDERTON.

COUNCILLOR W. S. S. BACON.

COUNCILLOR MRS. BENSUSAN-BUTT, M.D.

COUNCILLOR H. H. FISHER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR F. A. JACKLIN.

COUNCILLOR P. W. OLLE.

*Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :*

The Health Committee with the addition of

MRS. TOWNSEND AND MISS K. E. SANDERS, J.P., R.R.C.

# THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1934.

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## *Medical Officer of Health, etc. :*

W. F. CORFIELD, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.).

## *Assistant Medical Officer of Health, etc. :*

R. W. CUSHING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Oxon).

## *Sanitary Inspectors :*

\*A. FISHER.

\*H. T. CARD.

\*O. R. WARNER.

\* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Meat Inspector's Certificate.

## *Health Nurses :*

\*†‡MISS E. R. SMITH.

\*MISS L. PEARSON.

\*†‡MISS M. PENNICK.

\*†‡MISS M. E. RICKARD.

\*†‡MISS A. H. WEBBER.

## *Massense :*

MISS M. SCOTT, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.P.T.C.

## *Clerks :*

R. D. SARGEANT.

MISS M. KITTLE.

MISS B. M. HYLTON.

A. W. MILLBOURN.

W. B. WYNCOLL.

R. J. WYNCOLL.

## *Laboratory Assistant :*

R. D. SARGEANT.

## *Disinfectors :*

G. T. HEWES.

## *Matron, Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium :*

\*†MISS D. COPELIN.

## *Matron, Maternity Home :*

\*†MRS. F. DENNIS.

\* Certified Midwife. † State Registered Nurse. ‡ Health Visitor's Certificate.

## PART-TIME SPECIALISTS :

### *Surgeon, Isolation Hospital :*

RONALD REID, F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

### *Orthopædic Surgeon :*

B. WHITCHURCH HOWELL, F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

### *X-Ray Specialist :*

J. ORD PENDER SMITH, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.M.R.E. (Camb.).

### *Medical Officer.—Ante-Natal Clinic :*

GWYNEDD HUGH-JONES, M.B., B.S. (Lond.).

### *Obstetric Consultants :*

W. S. O'LOUGHLIN, M.D., M.C.O.G.

J. L. PERCEVAL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### *Dental Surgeon :*

F. J. GODFREY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

### *Veterinary Surgeon*

C. T. MURPHY, M.R.C.V.S.

HEALTH OFFICES,  
TRINITY STREET,

3rd June, 1935.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1934.

*Area.* The Boundary of the Borough was altered during the year and this resulted in slightly increasing the area and population. It seems strange that the Registration Areas were not altered at the same time.

*Statistics.* The Birth Rate has gone up and the Death Rate remains about 10 per 1,000 of the population—quite a good figure. It should be remembered that in comparing Death Rates, only *corrected* Rates should be quoted.

The Death Rate from Tuberculosis remains very low; that from Cancer is almost stationary.

*Infectious Diseases.* An unusually large number of patients were admitted to the Hospital, altogether 605 cases. Only once before has the Hospital had to deal with over 600 cases. This was in 1918 when 602 were admitted.

*Housing.* Special attention was paid to the condemnation of unfit houses. The five-year plan was speeded up and a special search made for houses that were liable to be condemned. This work interfered with the routine work of the Sanitary Inspectors and the need for one or more additional inspectors became evident.

*Maternity and Child Welfare.* More accommodation in the Maternity Home became a pressing necessity during the year and an excellent scheme for its enlargement was inaugurated. This included the purchase of the next house which has made a very excellent residence for the nursing staff. The Infant Welfare

Clinics continue their most useful work and the Ante-natal Clinic is becoming more popular.

The past year has been an extremely strenuous one in every direction. The Isolation Hospital was not only extremely busy, but a County Scheme for a new Small-pox Hospital needed very careful and anxious consideration. A number of meetings were held with representatives of the Ministry of Health and the County Council. Only after prolonged negotiation was it finally agreed that a new Small-pox Hospital should be built adjoining the Isolation Hospital.

The Maternity Home enlargement required endless care and supervision; and lastly and by no means least, the inspection of houses under the 1930 Housing Act resulted in numerous and repeated interviews with owners and agents of property anxious to try and save houses likely to be condemned. In spite of the large number of Demolition Orders made, in no instance did an Owner consider it advisable to appeal to the County Court.

The new Public Lavatories and Baths were opened during the year. They have proved a great success, and the Baths have exceeded all estimates of their popularity.

The Staffs of the Health Offices, Isolation Hospital, and Maternity Home have worked whole-heartedly throughout the year and I am most grateful for their assistance. I also beg to thank the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and members of the Health Committee and of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for their continued support and interest in the work of the Department.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. F. CORFIELD,

*Medical Officer of Health, etc.*

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# Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1934.

*An "Ordinary Report" as defined in paragraph 2 of  
Circular 1417 of the Ministry of Health.*

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	12,020
<b>Population</b> (1934 R.G. estimate)	...	...	...	50,910
"    (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	48,701
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	...	...	...	10,520
"    "    "    (1934) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	10,970
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1931)	...	...	...	11,071
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£307,345
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,280

## Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Live Births	{ Legitimate	Male, 360	Female, 338	Total, 698
	{ Illegitimate	" 26	" 10	" 36
<b>Birth Rate</b>	...	...	...	14·4
"    "    England and Wales	...	...	...	14·8
Still Births	Male, 11	Female, 7	Total, 18	
Rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	24·5
Deaths	Male, 284	Female, 260	Total, 544	
<b>Death Rate</b> per 1,000 of the population	...	...	crude	10·7
"    "    "    "	...	...	corrected	10·0
"    "    England and Wales	...	...	...	11·8
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	...	...	...	42·4
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Child-birth—	From Sepsis, 2.	From Other Causes, 1.		
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births—	Legitimate, 45·3.	Illegitimate, 83·3.	Total, 47·7.	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1
"    "    Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
"    "    Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	2



Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	...	...	0.59
Other Tubercular Disease Death Rate	...	...	0.08
Cancer Death Rate	...	...	1.67

#### Deaths of Colchester Residents of 70 years and over.

70 and under 80	80 and under 90	90 and over	Total over 70
142	89	17	248

The ages of persons of 90 and over were—3 of 90, 7 of 91, 3 of 92, 2 of 96, 1 of 97, 1 of 98; eleven of these persons were females, and six males.

#### Garrison and Institutional Populations.

Average Daily Strength of the Garrison	...	...	4,730
Officers,	192	Women,	408
Other Ranks,	3,459	Children,	671
Mental Hospitals Population	...	...	3,306
Severalls Mental Hospital (Inmates and Resident Staff)	...	...	2,427
Royal Eastern Counties Institution and Colchester Branches	..	...	879

The Military population has increased since the previous year by 104 and the Mental Hospitals by 188.

#### The Causes of Death in Infants and Children under 5 years, 1934.

Cause of Death	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—5 years	TOTALS
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1
Measles	...	1	...	1
Whooping Cough	1	...	...	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	...	...	1
Heart Disease	1	...	...	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia	3	2	...	5
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	23	...	...	23
Diarrhoea	2	...	...	2
Violent Deaths	1	...	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	1
Bronchitis	1	1	...	2
Totals...	35	5	2	42



Above is given the general statistical information concerning the year 1934. This year is remarkable for the fact that the new boundaries of the Borough came into being and the area of the district increased from 11,333 acres to 12,020. The inclusion of this small addition of land increased the Borough Population by 430 persons, who occupied 143 houses.

The Registrar General's estimate for the total population of the Borough is 50,910, and this figure includes the Garrison.

The Birth Rate has increased from 13·3 to 14·4 and the actual number of births from 663 to 734, quite a large increase, particularly when it is remembered that this rate has been steadily falling for the past ten years. It is also gratifying to note that the Still-birth Rate has fallen from 40·7 to 24·5 per 1,000 births.

The General Death Rate is well below the General Rate for England and Wales, which is 11·8, the Colchester crude Rate being 10·7 and when corrected 10·0.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 47·7 per 1,000 live births, and this figure would be a great deal lower were it not for the fact that out of 35 infant deaths 23 were due to Congenital Debility and Premature Birth.

The number of deaths of babies under one year old is less by one than in the previous year, and it is a noteworthy and regrettable fact that out of these 35 infant deaths 25 were boys. Twenty-three infants died from "Congenital Debility and Prematurity," four less than in the previous year, and the figure for 1934 contained three deaths of premature triplets. Were it not for this cause the number of deaths of infants and children under five years of age would be very low. The three deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were all due to Tubercular Meningitis.

Although one death is recorded from Measles, this death took place away from Colchester, but the child being a Colchester resident the death became an inward transfer and has to be counted to the Borough. Actually no deaths from Measles occurred in the Borough, and only two from Whooping Cough and two from Diarrhoea.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate remains very satisfactorily low and the Cancer Death Rate appears to be slowing down. The next few years will show if the steady upward tendency that the latter rate has shown for so many years has now reached its maximum. There have been slight indications of this in recent years, though of

course it may be only a temporary lull and the increase will begin again.

The air of Colchester certainly appears to keep people hale and hearty if one can judge from the death returns. Every year a large majority of the total deaths is of persons over 70 years old. In 1934, out of 544 total deaths 248 were persons over 70 years of age, and of these 17 were over 90 years old, the oldest one being 98 years of age.

A brief note is necessary to explain certain calculations concerning the General Death Rates given above.

For 1934, this is calculated on a population of 50,767 and not on the estimated population of 50,910. The latter is the estimated population for the enlarged Borough, but for the first three months of the year the old Borough boundary was still in force, so an adjustment had to be made to allow for this, and the Registrar General has intimated that a population of 50,767 is the one to be used for statistical purposes.

It will also be noted that a "crude death rate" and a "corrected death rate" are given. The correction is made by using a factor supplied by the Registrar General. The value of this will be evident from a simple example.

Bournemouth contains a number of elderly persons and has a Crude Death Rate of 14.0 per 1,000. Dagenham has a young population and a Crude Death Rate of 6.5 per 1,000 of the population. When the Registrar General's Factors, which correct for age and sex distribution, are applied to these two towns, it is found that the Bournemouth Rate falls to 10.5 per 1,000 and the Dagenham Rate rises to 9.9.

For comparative purposes the Corrected Death Rate should always be quoted, and this for Colchester in 1934 was 10.0 per 1,000 of the population.

One further point with reference to statistics should be mentioned. Although the Borough boundary has been altered, the Registration Areas remain the same as before, so it is necessary for Registrars in adjoining districts to send Returns of Births and Deaths to the Colchester Health Office for the small portions of what used to be their areas and are now part of the Borough. It seems strange that the Registration Area Boundaries were not altered at the same time as the Local Government Area Boundaries, and it is to be hoped that this alteration may not be long delayed.

## Deaths of Colchester Residents, 1934.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	TOTALS
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	1	...	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	1	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	...	2
Diphtheria ... ..	...	1	1
Influenza ... ..	1	3	4
Eucephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	2	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	1	...	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	20	10	30
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	4	...	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	41	44	85
Syphilis, &c. ... ..	1	1	2
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..	...	1	1
Diabetes ... ..	4	5	9
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ... ..	18	18	36
Heart Disease ... ..	71	76	147
Aneurysm ... ..	2	...	2
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	10	14	24
Bronchitis ... ..	8	10	18
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	11	6	17
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum... ..	6	...	6
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ... ..	1	1	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	4	1	5
Cirrhosis of Liver... ..	...	1	1
Diseases of Liver ... ..	1	4	5
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	4	5	9
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	6	8	14
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	...	2	2
Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	...	1	1
Senility ... ..	3	5	8
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ... ..	17	6	23
Suicide ... ..	3	2	5
Other deaths from Violence ... ..	11	8	19
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	30	23	53
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ... ..	...	...	...
Totals ... ..	284	260	544

There is an increase of 38 in the total number of deaths, but with the new area and increased population the actual Death Rate remains very much as before. Influenza deaths were notably less, from 13 to 4. Deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage increased from 27 to 36, from Heart Disease from 134 to 147, and from other Circulatory Diseases from 15 to 24. Deaths from Nephritis fell from 20 to 14. The figure for Cancer Deaths rose from 82 to 85, and for Pulmonary Tuberculosis from 29 to 30, whereas that for other Tuberculous Diseases fell from 5 to 4.

**Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality  
during the year 1934.**

	Birth Rate per 1000 Total Population.		Annual Death Rate per 1000 Population.										Rate per 1000 Live Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 year.	
England and Wales	14.8	0.62	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.54	5.5	59	
121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.7	0.66	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.47	7.4	63	
135 Smaller Towns	15.0	0.67	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.42	3.6	53	
London ...	13.2	0.50	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.56	12.6	67	
Colchester Borough ...	14.4	0.35	10.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.08	0.37	2.7	47	

The Birth Rate has risen in all the above groups except in London, where it has remained stationary. The particularly low Still-birth Rate for Colchester should be noted. The Borough Death Rate is well below the other Death Rates given above and these are comparable figures as in each case the corrected Death Rates are given.

The Rates of Death from the Infectious Diseases and Violence are lower for Colchester than elsewhere, except for Deaths from Scarlet Fever, and although Colchester had only 3 deaths out of 244 cases of this disease, yet the rate is high in comparison with other places. The reason for these deaths is set out on page 37.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is much lower than in the Areas quoted, as is the Diarrhoea Mortality Rate in children under two years of age.

#### Health Officers and Staff.

Several changes took place in the office staff. Mr. O. R. Warner, the Clerk in the Sanitary Inspector's Department, was appointed Second Additional Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. W. B. Wyncoll was promoted from the Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff to his position.

In place of Mr. W. B. Wyncoll, Mr. A. W. Millbourn was appointed to the Health Office Staff, and Mr. R. J. Wyncoll was appointed Junior Clerk in the Medical Officer's Clerical Staff.

Miss A. W. Sasse, who has done excellent work as a Health Nurse in the Department since 1911, unfortunately had to resign her



position owing to ill-health. She was Colchester's first Health Visitor and at first undertook the work voluntarily. In those early days those doing this work were pioneers, and they had to make good their positions and show the value of their endeavours. Colchester quickly realized how useful such work could be and Miss Sasse was given a salaried appointment. From that time she diligently and conscientiously carried on work that at times was difficult and needed constant tact and patience. Her cheerful nature enabled her to make numerous friends among those with whom she worked, and she will be particularly missed by many sufferers from Tuberculosis who knew her well in the Tuberculosis Dispensary, where she was the Nurse from the opening of the Dispensary in 1912.

She will be equally regretted in the office, where her ready help was always appreciated, and in her retirement she has the best wishes of the whole staff for her speedy recovery.

Miss M. Pennick was appointed in Miss Sasse's place, and a fifth Health Nurse having been found necessary, Miss A. H. Webber was appointed.

Two other Staff changes occurred during the year and these were in connection with the Maternity work of the Department. Dr. Sarah Boyle resigned her appointment as Medical Officer to the Ante-natal Clinic and Dr. Gwynedd Hugh-Jones was appointed in her place. Also Dr. J. Gutch, of Ipswich, resigned his appointment as Obstetric Consultant and Dr. W. S. O'Loughlin, of Romford, was appointed to this position.

The full staff of the office is set out on page 2 of this report.

### **Nursing in the Home.**

The District Nursing Association continue to send nurses to look after sick children at the request of the Health Department, and more than double the number of visits were paid than in the previous year. Altogether 208 visits were paid to 13 children suffering from the following conditions:—Pneumonia (10), Ophthalmia (1), Whooping Cough (1), and Sticky Eyes (1). All made good recoveries.

### **Midwives.**

Number of Midwives practising in the Borough ... 23

Number of Medical Aid Notices received from Midwives 132

The number of Midwives remains approximately the same, but the number of Medical Aid Notices has increased from 86 to 132.

These are notices sent by Midwives to Doctors for medical help, the Local Supervising Authority, in this case the Borough Council, being responsible for the doctor's fee and only claiming all or part of it from the patient according to an approved income scale. The increased use of the Maternity Home by County Patients will account for at least some of the extra Medical Aid Notices. The County Council is responsible for the fees in these cases.

### Laboratory Facilities.

#### Health Offices Laboratory.

Specimens Examined.	Results.		TOTAL.
	Positive or Abnormal.	Negative or Normal.	1934.
Swabs for Diphtheria B. ... ..	45	533	578
Sputum for Tubercle B. ... ..	7	50	57
Fluid for C.S.F. ... ..	—	1	1
Smear for Anthrax ... ..	4	4	8
Urine Examinations (various) ... ..	40	592	632
Town Water Supply Analysis ... ..	...	...	10
Other Water Supply Analysis ... ..	...	...	10
Total Specimens Examined ... ..	...	...	1,296

The number of specimens examined in the Borough Laboratory is 300 more than in the previous year. This is chiefly due to increases in the number of swabs examined for Diphtheria Bacilli and specimens of Urine from the Ante-natal Clinic.

In addition to the above a number of specimens were sent from the Borough to the County Laboratory. A table of these as supplied by the County Medical Officer is given below :—

Specimen.	No. Examined.
Diphtheria ... ..	2
Sputa ... ..	177
Typhoid ... ..	17
Ringworm ... ..	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	5
Total ... ..	201

The high figure for Sputa is due to the fact that all specimens of Sputa from the Tuberculosis Dispensary and Sanatorium are sent to the County Laboratory.



During the year the Town Water Supply was examined upon several occasions and was always found to be quite satisfactory.

The Water in the Borough Bathing Pool was also examined, and though slight pollution was found to be present before the water entered the pool the method of chlorination was so satisfactory that the water in the pool was found to be quite pure and in a most satisfactory condition.

### Maternity and Nursing Homes.

Applications for Registration	...	...	—
Number of Homes Registered	...	...	2
Orders made Refusing or Cancelling Registration	...	...	—
Applications for Exemption from Registration	...	...	—

The two Registered Nursing Homes remain the same as in the previous year and no changes have occurred. Both are well kept and satisfactorily conducted.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

*Visits paid to Infants by the Health Nurses during the year.*

Under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—12 months	1—2 years	2—5 years	Total Visits
721	869	1,106	1,702	2,349	5,383	12,130

*Part I Children Act, 1908, as amended by Part V of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.*

Children on Register January 1st, 1934	...	...	42
Names removed from the Register	...	...	21
Additions during the year	...	...	23
Children on Register 31st December, 1934	...	...	44
Foster Mothers on Register	...	...	32

The number of visits paid by the Health Nurses to Infants and Young Children is very much the same as in 1933.

An important part of the Health Nurses' work consists in visiting and inspecting homes where little children are looked after by

Foster Mothers. Only good homes are allowed to receive foster children and all of them are regularly inspected.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Number of Cases	Cases		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated				
		At Home				
—	—	—	—	—	—	—

It is gratifying to note that no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred during the year.

### The Infant Clinics.

	1933	1934
Number of new babies (311) and toddlers (82) brought to the Clinics : Trinity Street 178 babies, 53 toddlers ; Wimpole Road 87 babies, 10 toddlers ; Lexden 33 babies, 17 toddlers ; Mile End 13 babies, 2 toddlers ... ..	359	393
Number of Attendances made : Trinity Street 3,073, Wimpole Road 1,913, Lexden 549, Mile End 270 ... ..	5,893	5,805

A small alteration has been made in the above table. This year toddlers are given separately from babies. A baby is a child under 2 years old. A toddler is a child between 2 years and 5 years old.

It will be noted that although the number of attendances made was less than in 1933, the number of children brought to the Clinics was higher.

The Clinic at Mile End was never a very great success, and it was decided during the year to cease holding it. A number of children from Mile End have always attended at Trinity Street.

A great deal of Dried Milk and other Foods are sold at a cheap rate, by arrangement with the manufacturers, at the Infant Clinics. Also, in necessitous cases, Dried Milk, etc., is given free of cost. The Table below gives the quantities during the past year.

**Food distributed at the Infant Clinics**

		Sold at Cost Price.	Given Free.
Dried Milk, lbs. ...	...	3,272	475
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, Soz. ...	...	916	16
Parish's Food, Soz. ...	...	132	4
Cod Liver Oil and Malt, lbs. ...	...	320	8
Virol, Soz. ...	...	804	1
Ovaltine, tins ...	...	1,223	—
Lactagol, packets ...	...	283	18
Feeding Bottles ...	...	150	1
„ „ Teats 403, Valves 290		693	—
Tooth Brushes ...	...	124	—

Lactagol is a preparation for Nursing Mothers.

The above quantities are in addition to the large amount of Free Fresh Milk distributed.

**Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.**

	1932	1933	1934
Number of families supplied with Free			
Fresh Milk... ..	110	99	142
Number of pints supplied ...	12,289	11,402	14,818½

There was a marked increase in the number of families supplied with Free Milk, as can be seen above.

The amount of Milk supplied to expectant mothers was 696 pints.

**Ante-natal Clinic.**

	1932	1933	1934
Number of times the Clinic was held ...	48	48	50
New Patients (Colchester 131, Other Districts 23) ...	100	86	154
Number of Attendances (Colchester 548, Other Districts 69) ...	496	383	617
Average number of cases per Clinic ...	10	8	12
Cases with Abnormal Conditions ...	20	27	23
Cases recommended to seek further Medical Advice ...	17	16	11
Cases recommended to Institutions ...	8	10	12

There has been a decided improvement in the number of women attending this Clinic. The figure for 1933 was nearly doubled and the increase appears to be a steadily progressive one. Some 15% of the women attending were found to have some Abnormal Condition. This alone shows the great need of these Clinics.

The importance of Ante-natal Care cannot be over-emphasised. Maternal Mortality is still a great deal too high. Even among the few Maternal Deaths that occur in Colchester, it is probable that some might have been avoided. The Ante-natal Clinic is one of the ways of avoiding such catastrophes, but its popularity and usefulness depend wholly upon the way it is conducted and the personality of those in attendance. It is most satisfactory to see the great increase in the number of patients attending this Clinic.

Maternal Deaths, as in previous years, are all investigated by the Medical Officer of Health, and a confidential report upon each is sent to the Ministry of Health.

### **Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Borough Cases Notified, 7 ; not notified, nil...	...	7
Removed to Isolation Hospital—		
Borough Cases, 6 ; Outside District Cases, 3	...	9
Deaths in Isolation Hospital: Borough, 2 ; Outside		
Districts, 1	...                      ...                      ...	3
Deaths at home or in other Institutions (Borough)	...	1

Puerperal Fever is always a serious disease and frequently a most dangerous one. Six Borough cases and 3 cases from Outside Districts were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Of these 9 cases, 3 died, and a case in the Essex County Hospital also died.

The Registrar General has for 1934 given statistics of Maternal Mortality for England and Wales. Similar figures have been calculated for Colchester. A comparison is given in the table below.

### **Maternal Mortality Death Rate.**

#### *England and Wales.*

	Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
Per 1,000 Live Births	2·03	2·57	4·60
Per 1,000 Total Births	1·95	2·46	4·41

#### *Borough of Colchester.*

Per 1,000 Live Births	2·72	1·36	4·08
Per 1,000 Total Births	2·65	1·33	3·98

It will be seen that although the Maternal Mortality Rate of Puerperal Sepsis is higher than that of England and Wales, the Rate from Other Causes is lower, and the totals are both lower. Some difference in Notification or Death Registration may account for this and it is probably more correct to judge by the Total Figures. Even so, the rate for the Borough is a great deal too high, and judging by the rates in other countries this high rate ought to be halved.

### Orthopædic Clinic.

		1932	1933	1934
Infants brought to the Clinic	...	27	36	21
Attendances made	...	41	45	30

The great fall in the number of Infants attending this Clinic is probably an indication of the generally healthier conditions of the children in the Borough. There seems no other adequate way of accounting for this decided drop in the figures. The number of children attending the Infant Clinics has increased, and as children with crippling defects are referred from the Infant Clinics to the Orthopædic Clinic it is reasonable to draw the deduction that the actual number of crippled children is less and not that such children are no longer brought to the clinics. If the latter were the case the children would be found and reported by the Health Nurses, as all little children are regularly visited by the latter. It is too soon to expect this reduction steadily to continue. But it will be very interesting to note if it is the case, and if so it can undoubtedly be ascribed to the work of the Infant Clinics and the Free Milk, etc. provided by the Local Authority.

The 21 infants treated at this Clinic were suffering from the following crippling conditions—

Rickets, Flat Feet, or Bowed Legs	...	...	14
Deformity of Toes...	...	...	2
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	1
Knock Knees	...	...	2
Arthritis Hip	...	...	1
Deformed Ear	...	...	1

Two children were sent to an Orthopædic Hospital for Treatment. One was operated upon and greatly relieved. The condition of the other yielded to manipulative treatment without operation.



A Mentally Defective Child with Hip Disease was sent to the Public Assistance Institution.

### **Orthopædic Massage Clinic.**

Miss Scott continues to attend upon one half-day each week to hold a Massage Clinic in connection with the Orthopædic Clinic, which is held once a quarter. In the Massage Clinic a great deal of useful work is done in readjusting splints, applying plaster bandages, training children to use special muscles, and generally in seeing that the treatment prescribed by the Specialist Surgeon is carried out.

Number of times the Massage Clinic was open	...	49
Attendances of Infants and Toddlers	...	69
„ „ School Children...	...	231
„ „ Children from County Districts	...	85

### **Dental Clinic.**

One session of this Clinic is for patients referred from the Antenatal Clinic and from the Infant Clinics, the rest of the week being devoted to the treatment of school children.

			1933	1934
Number of sessions held	...	...	40	43
Mothers attending	...	...	17	52
Infants „	...	...	25	17
Attendances (mothers 117, infants 32)	...	...	192	149

Although the number of Infants attending this Clinic is lower, the attendance of Mothers from the Antenatal Clinic has much improved. It is too soon to hope that the small figure for Infants attending is due to the improvement of babies' teeth, but it is very gratifying to find that a number of women attending the Antenatal Clinic realise the advisability of getting rid of septic teeth and their mouths generally tidied up before the confinement. The only women attending this Clinic are referred to it for treatment from the Antenatal Clinic.



*Result of Treatment.*

Teeth filled (temporary 22, permanent 49) ....	...	71
„ extracted (temporary 14, permanent 106) .....	...	120
Other operations (Scaling, Dressing, Fitting Dentures, etc.)		112
General Anæsthetics given ... ..	...	19

**MATERNITY HOME.**

The necessity for enlarging this Home was realised in 1933 and a plan for doing this was approved in 1934. At about the same time the next-door house came into the market and was purchased by the Council. In this way a most excellent and complete Institution was finally provided for the Borough and surrounding County Districts.

No. 32 Lexden Road was enlarged and altered, so that instead of housing the staff and providing nine beds for patients and one labour ward and one nursery, it now houses only a small portion of the staff, and there is accommodation for twenty patients, as well as a proper reception room, two labour wards and two nurseries, with a new office for the Matron and duty room for the Sister and Nursing Staff.

The new house needed little alteration and is used as the Nurses' Home. It is most conveniently situated, near enough to be almost in the same grounds as the Home itself, yet far enough away for the Nursing Staff to get right away from their work when they are off duty, an important point that is frequently not sufficiently taken into account when the building and planning of such Institutions is under consideration.

**Work of the Home.**

	1933	1934
Admitted (149 Borough and 48 County) ...	130	197
Delivered in the Home ... ..	128	195
Admitted for Antenatal Care ... ..	2	2
Attended by the Nursing Staff ... ..	54	100
„ „ Doctors ... ..	74	95
Fornis sent for Medical Aid under the Mid-wives Acts ... ..	21	40

The public appreciation of this Home is well shown by the above figures and no comment upon them is required.

**Abnormalities.**

Abnormal Presentation (including Breech 11, Transverse 2, Persistent Occipito-posterior 3, Face 2, Impacted Shoulder 1)	...	...	...	...	19
Twins	...	...	...	...	1
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	6
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	22
Post-mature Birth	...	...	...	...	6
Forceps Delivery	...	...	...	...	11
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	1
Induction of Labour	...	...	...	...	17
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	14
Cæsarian Section performed	...	...	...	...	4
Ante-partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	4
Post-partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	3
Emergency Cases	...	...	...	...	11
Placenta Prævia	...	...	...	...	1
Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	2

The number of Abnormalities is above the average to be expected because a certain number of abnormal cases are sent into the Home as Emergency Cases. Such patients not having booked accommodation in the Home in the early days of their confinements, but in the later stages being found to have some abnormality are urged by their doctors to go into the Home. Occasionally such cases cause the greatest anxiety, but there can be no doubt that frequently lives are saved by the care and attention received by these patients in the Home. Unfortunately it occasionally happens that such cases are received too late.

Three maternal deaths occurred in the Home during the year. They were due to: severe post-partum hæmorrhage, cardiac dilatation and eclamptic fits.

Also seven baby deaths occurred: two from convulsions, two from atelectasis, two from prematurity and one from cerebral hæmorrhage.

**Fees paid by Borough Patients in the Maternity Home.**

		Amount paid per day.								
		5/-	6/-	6/6	7/6	8/6	9/-	10/-	12/-	15/-
Number of Patients	149	13	20	33	26	14	2	10	11	20

Five patients were admitted for treatment in the Home before their confinements. Reductions were made in the fees paid by two of them for these periods.

Occasionally well-to-do patients ask for special nursing attention. In such cases, and for operation cases that can afford an extra fee, a charge of three shillings per day is made for additional nursing attention. Thirteen patients paid this extra fee.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **Water, Drainage, Sewerage and Scavenging.**

*Water.* The position of the Water Supply of the Borough was very carefully considered during 1933, and in the early part of 1934 a new borehole was sunk at Lexden. A most excellent supply was tapped, and after several analyses, which proved its purity, it was taken into the general supply to the town on 25th May, 1934.

Additional storage accommodation was provided by taking into use a reservoir that had previously been used for supplying water to the London and North-Eastern Railway.

#### **Water Records.**

	For the Year ended	31st March, 1934.	31st March, 1935.
Gallons pumped into Tank	...	519,773,050	449,861,750
Gallons supplied to L.N.E.Rly. Co.		37,709,000	42,216,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...	557,482,050	492,077,750
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Consumption per Head per Day	...	28·4	26·48

The Consumption figure includes the Garrison and Water used for all purposes, such as road making and watering, sewer flushing, fire extinguishment, public baths, etc.

	1934.	1935.
New Main Laid	... 2 miles 1,516 yds.	3 miles 595 yds.
Mains replaced	... 1 mile 1,276 yds.	292 yds.

Total Mileage of—

Trunk and Feeder Mains (1934-35)	...	7 miles 1,370 yds.
Service Mains (1934-35)	...	64 miles 673 yds.

*Sewerage.* The Sewers have been extended in many of the new roads. The chief extensions were in: De Vere Road (575 yds.), Ipswich Road (33 yds.), Acland Road (265 yds.), Whitehall Estate

(250 yds.), Plume Avenue (225 yds.). The total increase in the length of the Sewers was nearly a mile-and-three-quarters.

It has many times been regretted in these Annual Reports that fresh Cess-pools had each year to be installed in certain parts of the Borough. This method of sewage disposal is definitely a danger in any large population, and the scheme for the new Main Sewer on the South of the Borough is a definite step forward in improving the sanitary condition of the area. When it has been installed it should be possible to do away with a number of existing Cess-pools.

#### **Closet Accommodation and Wells.**

Type of Closet.	1932	1933	1934
Privy ...	35	35	35
Pail Closets ...	128	128	126
Cess-pools ...	139	152	171
Wells ...	157	160	171

Where there are Cess-pools there are also Wells, and where the Sewers are extended the Water Mains should go at the same time.

The "Bradford System" continues to give complete satisfaction in the five Refuse Dumps in the Borough.

#### **Public Lavatories and Baths.**

The Public Conveniences and Lavatories are all constantly inspected. For a number of years the need for a good central Public Lavatory has been apparent, but a site was not available. During 1934 an excellent position was found in Culver Street and a first class Lavatory erected. This consists of Lavatories for Men and Women, a Parcels Office, Dressing Rooms and Bath Rooms for both sexes. It has proved a great success and the Baths are exceedingly popular.

#### **Sanitary Inspection.**

*General Summary of Work carried out by Sanitary Inspector's Department under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, Bye-laws, etc.*

Complaints received	...	...	...	244
Defects found	...	...	...	5,582
Defects remedied	...	...	...	1,420
Factories and Workshops inspected	...	...	...	33
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	377
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	54

*Housing.*

Floors repaired—bedroom 14, others 81...	95
Walls, internal, repaired—skirting boards 6, plaster 134, match-boardings 4, brickwork 33	177
„ external, repaired—plaster 44, brickwork 9, weather-boards 6, re-pointed 20, air-bricks put in 1	80
Ceilings—plaster repaired	53
Doors—provided 5, new sills 6, weather-boards 1, repaired 50, joints between frames and brickwork renewed 1	63
Windows—made to open 8, enlarged 3, cords, etc., provided 42, other repairs 83, joints between frames and brickwork renewed 4	140
Ovens—repaired 7, new provided 12	19
Firegrates—repaired, including hearths, surrounds, firebacks and mantels	29
Stairs—handrails provided 19, treads repaired 45, balusters repaired or provided 2	66
Rooms—cleansed and re-decorated	63
Roofs—repaired	44
Rain-water pipes and gutters—gutters repaired 16, downpipes repaired 11, downpipes lengthened 4, downpipes disconnected 4, gutters provided 1, downpipes provided 12	48
Chimneys—repaired 8, pots renewed 4	12
Food cupboards ventilated	7
Wash-houses—repaired 37, coppers provided 5, coppers repaired 20, furnaces repaired 4	66
Houses—concrete plinth to walls 8, damp walls remedied 156	164
Yards paved 15, paving repaired 25	40
Sinks—provided 29; waste pipes—provided 31, repaired 7	67
Sculleries—brickwork repaired 21, floors paved 4	25

*Water Supply.*

New water taps provided	20
New services put in	21
Service pipes repaired or renewed	2
Wells and Pumps, cleansed or repaired	2
Defects reported to Water Supply Department	40
Old Wells filled up	2



*Drainage.*

Drains provided 36, repaired 15, traps or gullies provided 33, grids to gullies 1, drains ventilated 9, ventilating shafts repaired 1, obstructions removed 38, insanitary traps abolished 6, gullies cleansed 3, old drains abolished 3 ...	145
Inspection chambers—provided 8, repaired 5 ...	13
Water-closets—provided 10, pans and traps renewed 21, flushing apparatus provided 10, flushing apparatus repaired or renewed 46, obstructions removed 4, pans cleansed 2, water supply pipes repaired 5, other repairs 57 ...	155
Pail Closets, repairs to ...	1
„ abolished ...	2

*Other Sanitary Work.*

Books disinfected ...	255
Houses disinfected ...	266
Articles of clothing disinfected ...	3,792
Offensive accumulations removed ...	13
Dead animals removed from public places and buried	3
Overcrowding nuisances abated or recommendations for Council House ...	23
Pig-keeping nuisances abated ...	4
Other nuisances abated ...	2
Matters reported to Borough Surveyor's Department	36
Ashbins provided ...	90
Ash-pit abolished ...	1
Insanitary ashpits abolished...	1
Vans inspected ...	13
Common Lodging House inspections ...	6
Re-visits in connection with Sanitary Notices— P.H. Act, 1,305 ; H. Act, 591 ...	1,896
Interviews with Property Owners, Tradesmen, etc. ...	227
Smoke nuisances abated ...	3
Urinals reconstructed ...	1

*Milk and Dairies Order.*

Requirements complied with...	4
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*Offensive Trades Byelaws.*

Requirements complied with...	12
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*Bye-laws with respect to Tents, Vans, etc.*

Visits made	...	...	...	...	13
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*Bye-laws in respect to Houses let in Lodgings.*

Visits made	...	...	...	...	8
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*Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.*

Inspections	...	...	...	...	188
Advice as to destruction given			...	...	82
Letters to Owners or Occupiers of premises				...	21
Premises freed	...	...	...	...	52
Complaints received		...	...	...	37

Above is the usual Statement of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department. Early in the year it was realized that the great amount of routine and house-to-house inspection must be curtailed if increased attention was to be given to the work of Clearance or Demolition of Houses under the 1930 Act. The only alternative was an increase in the number of Sanitary Inspectors. Ultimately both alternatives became necessary. Routine Inspection was largely given up in favour of the inspection of all property known as unlikely to be repairable at a reasonable cost. Each inspection of this nature takes a very long time and defects must be noted, checked and later properly recorded. It will be noted above that the number of "Defects found" is more than double the number in the previous year. Yet the number of "Defects remedied" is less than half the number in the previous year. The reason for this is that the great majority of "Defects found" were in houses later condemned for demolition. Though some might hold that this was the best way of remedying defects in such houses, improvement by demolition can hardly be accepted as falling within the meaning of "remedied" in the above statement.

The Inspectors' time was also more than usually occupied in dealing with Rats. More than twice the number of inspections were carried out and 52 premises were freed of rats against only 19 in the previous year.

Early in the summer the need for a third Sanitary Inspector was realized, and Mr. O. R. Warner was promoted from the position of

Sanitary Inspectors' Clerk to Sanitary Inspector. Mr. Warner holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Certificate for the Inspection of meat and other foods.

**Premises and Occupations controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations. Offensive Trades.**

	Number.	Inspections.
Fish Frier ... ..	26	14
Gut Scraper ... ..	2	42
Tallow Melter ... ..	1	24
Rag, Bone and Skin Dealer ... ..	7	8
Bone Boiler ... ..	1	1
Total ... ..	37	89
Horse Slaughterer ... ..	1	2

Complaints were received during the year of recurring nuisance from one Gut Scraper's Premises. Attempts were made to abate the nuisance but were unsuccessful, so that ultimately the licence that had been granted annually on condition that no nuisance arose, was refused and the business closed down. It had only been in existence for one year and its position was not well chosen.

No serious complaints were received concerning the other businesses and all are well and properly conducted.

**Common Lodging Houses.**

The one Registered Common Lodging House is well looked after and kept in a proper and orderly manner, but the building is very old and beginning to show signs of decay.

**Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Notice.**

*Schools.* The Sanitary condition of the Schools is under review, and more modern closets, additional washing accommodation, etc., are being considered.

*Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.* There are no premises dealing with Rag Flock in the Borough.

# **FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

## 1.—*Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	8	1	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	10	...	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises) ...	...	...	...
Total ...	18	1	...

## 2.—*Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts*:</i> —				
Want of cleanliness ...	2	2	...	...
Want of ventilation ...	1	1	...	...
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ...	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances... ..	8	8	...	...
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	...
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:</i> —				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	...
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921). ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	13	13	...	...

\* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

## *Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.*

Nature of Work. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Wearing Apparel—Making, &c. ...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...

*Home Work.*

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists. Section 107.						
	Lists received from Em- ployers twice a year.			Lists received from Em- ployers once a year.			Notices served on Oc- cupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.		
		Con- tractors.	Work- men.		Con- tractors.	Work- men.	
Wearing Apparel Making, etc...	24	—	486	—	—	—	1
Furniture and Upholstery ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	1
Sack Making ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Paper Receptacle Making ..	2	—	12	—	—	—	—
Total.. ..	30	—	492	—	—	—	2

During the year 22 lists of Outworkers, containing 222 names, were transferred from Colchester to other districts. Two lists were received in Colchester from other districts.

**HOUSING.***Statistics for the Year 1934.*

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	422
(i.) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	66
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	356

**I.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses.**

Inspection :—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	...	...	760
and Number of Inspections made	...	..	...	1,954
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	188
and Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	481

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	95
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	568

## II.—*Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	411
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## III.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

### A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	16
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) by owners ... ..	11
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—

### B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices ;	
(a) by owners ... ..	35
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	4

### C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	57
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	27



## D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930—

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. —
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... —

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

Premises				Number	Inspections
Slaughter-houses:—					
Registered	...	...	9 }	18	1,066
Licensed	...	...	9 }		
Bakehouses	...	...	32 }	33	22
Underground	...	...	1 }		
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	94	87
Cowsheds	...	...	...	56	53
Ice Cream	...	...	...	66	136

The premises of Ice Cream Makers are definitely specified in the Essex County Council Act, and Regulations have been made for their proper conduct and management.

**Milk.**

*Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.*

*Licences issued for sale of Graded Milk, 1934.*

Certified Milk	...	...	...	3
Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk	...	...	...	2
Grade "A" Milk	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised Milk...	...	...	...	17

No licences were refused or revoked during the year.

**Meat.**

*Carcasses Examined by the Meat Inspectors.*

Cattle.	Swine.	Sheep.		Total.
1,084	3,272	2,421	...	6,777



*Whole Carcasses found Unfit and Destroyed.*

7 Oxen

37 Pigs

2 Sheep

These Carcasses were condemned for such conditions as Generalized Tuberculosis; Dropsy; Immaturity.

*Parts of Carcasses found Unfit and Destroyed.**Cattle—*

	lbs.
Livers ...	669
Heads and Tongues...	662
Mesenteries ...	136
Lungs ...	261
Plucks ...	46
Kidneys ...	—
Beef ...	1,624
Other parts ...	15
	<hr/>
	3,413
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*Pigs—*

	lbs.
Heads and Tongues ...	2,708½
Mesenteries ...	255
Plucks ...	150
Lungs ...	22
Livers ...	174½
Kidneys ...	1
Spleens ...	9
Other parts ...	142
	<hr/>
	3,462
	<hr/>

*Miscellaneous—*

3 tins Cooked Ham ...	41 lbs.
5 boxes Kippers ...	70 lbs.
1 tin Jellied Veal ...	7 lbs.
Chilled Beef ...	161 lbs.

Total Weight of Food Condemned and Destroyed:

7 tons, 2 cwts., 3 qtrs., 12 lbs.

During the year 178 visits and inspections were made to places where food was stored or prepared.

A butcher was prosecuted owing to the presence of unsound meat on his premises. Twelve pieces of meat were seized in the shop and condemned by a magistrate. He was fined £180 and 15/- costs.

# Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

*Result of Analysis of Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act.*

Samples.	Number of Samples.	Adulterated.	Nature of Adulteration.
New Milk ...	57	10	4 Fat Deficient :
Ginger Wine ...	1		(a) 10·0 per cent.
Rice ...	2		(b) 10·0 "
Scotch Whiskey ...	1		(c) 10·0 "
Gin ...	1		(a) 6·6 "
Rum ...	1		
Vinegar ...	1		4 added Water :
White Pepper ...	1		(b) 4·7 per cent.
Coffee ...	1		(b) 4·7 "
Butter ...	8		(b) 4·7 "
Damson Jam ...	1		(b) 8·24 "
Ice Cream ...	4		
Syrup ...	1		2 Fat Deficient and added Water :
Raisins ...	2		(a) 30·0 per cent. fat deficient and 24·7 per cent. added water.
Cream ...	2		(a) 23·3 per cent. fat deficient and 8·24 per cent. added water.
Condensed Milk ...	1		
Sugar ...	2		(a) Original Samples.
Marmalade ...	1		(b) Course of Delivery Samples.
Cheese ...	2		(c) "Appeal-to-the-Cow" Samples.
Tea ...	2		
Brandy ...	1		
Sausages ...	3		
Ground Almonds ...	4		
Bread ...	3		
Flour ...	2		
Port Wine ...	1		
Bacon ...	3		
Tincture of Iodine ...	1		
Olive Oil ...	2		
Lemon Squash ...	1		
Tinned Herring ...	1		
Aspirin Tablets ...	1		
Pearl Barley ...	1		
Honey ...	2		
Dried Apricots ...	2		
Tapioca ...	1		
Arrowroot ...	1		
Lemon Curd... ..	1		
Tinned Peaches ...	1		
Seidlitz Powder ...	1		
Oatmeal ...	1		
Tinned Pears ...	1		
Mixed Sweets ...	2		
Chicken and Ham Paste ...	1		
Bottled Herring ...	1		
Crab and Lobster Paste...	1		
Eucalyptus Oil ...	1		
	133	10	

A milk found to be deficient in fat and to contain added water was produced outside Colchester. The County Council prosecuted and the farmer's man was fined 5/- in respect of the original sample and 5/- in respect of one taken in course of delivery.

A local dairyman was fined £5 and 10/- costs for selling milk containing added water.

The same dairyman later in the year was summoned for selling milk deficient in fat. He was fined £15 and 5/- costs.

All samples of milk, butter, and cream, etc., were examined for the presence of a preservative.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1934.

(Civilian and Military Cases.)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Total Cases in Age Groups												Cases admitted to Hospital
		Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	244	...	1	11	8	14	80	43	37	34	7	9	...	239
Diphtheria	48	...	...	...	1	...	15	10	6	11	1	3	1	43
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2
Pneumonia	77	3	5	2	3	1	7	2	8	18	8	13	7	...

### Other Diseases Generally Notifiable.

Malaria ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas ...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	7	7	6	3
Encephalitis Lethargica }	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis }	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Dysentery ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...

### Other Diseases Notifiable Locally.

Measles ...	206	12	21	32	43	98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	180	23	28	33	44	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

## Deaths due to an Infectious Disease, 1934.

(Civilian and Military.)

Disease	Total Deaths	Age at Death											
		Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over
Diphtheria	2	..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia	39	3	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	6	3	13	9
Erysipelas	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Whooping Cough	3	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	2	1	...	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

## Isolation Hospital.

Cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital, 1934.

Authority sending in cases	Scarlet Fever	Deaths	Diphtheria	Deaths	Typhoid Fever	Deaths	Other Diseases	Deaths	Total	Deaths
Colchester Borough ...	161	2	30	1	...	...	17	3	208	6
Essex County Hospital ...	25	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	28	...
Mental Institutions ...	31	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	34	...
War Department ...	24	...	10	...	...	...	9	3	43	3
Walton U.D. ...	19	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	32	1
Sudbury Borough ...	16	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	17	...
Tendring R.D. ...	68	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	76	...
Lexden and Winstree R.D. ...	38	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	44	...
Private Cases ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Melford R.D. ...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...
Essex County Council ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85	11	85	11
West Mersea U.D. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Maldon U.D. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Braintree Joint Hospital Board ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Clacton U.D. ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Burnham U.D. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Dunmow R.D. ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Brightlingssea U.D. ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Total Cases	416	...	68	...	3	...	118	...	605	...
Deaths	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	17	...	21

In the above table the 118 "Other Diseases" may be classified as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	81	Nephritis ...	...	1
Puerperal Fever ...	9	Septic Rash ...	...	5
Tonsillitis ...	3	Whooping Cough ...	...	1
Diphtheria Carriers ...	1	Rash following Burns ...	...	1
Whooping Cough and Pneumonia ...	2	Septicæmia ...	...	1
Chicken Pox ...	1	Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	...	2
Septic Cæsarian Wound ...	1	Erysipelas ...	...	2
Acute Bronchitis ...	1	German Measles ...	...	1
Measles (1 with Pneumonia) 4		Suspected Encephalitis		
		Lethargia		1

The 17 deaths among these were due to Tuberculosis (10), Cerebro-spinal Fever (1), Whooping Cough and Pneumonia (1), Septicæmia (1), and Puerperal Fever (3). A baby admitted with its mother, who was suffering from Puerperal Fever, died from Marasmus.

In 1933 there were 328 patients admitted to the Isolation Hospital, and this was 50 more than in 1932. In 1934 there were 605 patients admitted, an increase of 277 cases. This was due to increases in the number of cases of both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. The increase was not confined to the Borough, but occurred in all the neighbouring districts, as the Table on page 34 shows very clearly.

This Table also shows that 11 deaths occurred among cases sent in by the Essex County Council. Ten of these deaths were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and it is owing to a special pavilion being set aside for advanced cases of this disease that so many deaths from this cause occur at the Hospital. Such wards are of great use in enabling severe cases to be moved from unsuitable homes, and it is generally possible to make the last days or weeks of these patients' lives much more comfortable than they would have been in their own homes. Several old chronic cases come into this pavilion every year or two for a few months' rest and good nourishment and nursing, and then return with renewed vigour to the battle of life. This pavilion serves a most valuable and useful purpose.

During the year an agreement was entered into between the Borough and County Councils for the building of a new Small-pox



Hospital adjoining the Isolation Hospital. At the same time the Administration Block will be enlarged to accommodate additional staff.

The new Hospital will be situate 220 yards from the Isolation Hospital, half the distance that the old Small-pox Hospital was from the main buildings.

The old Hospital was built of corrugated iron and had been in existence some thirty years. It was not at all up-to-date in fittings and equipment, and it was rightly decided to give up all ideas of trying to renovate and enlarge it, as it had fully served its purpose and was better demolished.

The new Hospital will contain 24 beds and a new road will join the two Institutions.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

#### **BOROUGH CASES—**

Notified, 244 ; not notified, nil...	...	...	244
Nursed at home or in other institutions	...	...	5
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	239
Return Cases	...	...	6=2·51%
Deaths at home or in other institutions	...	...	1
„ in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	2

#### **CASES FROM OUTSIDE DISTRICTS—**

Admitted to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	177
Deaths in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	nil

TOTAL CASES ADMITTED TO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL ... 416

TOTAL DEATHS IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL ... 2=0·48%

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified in the Borough was nearly double the number in the preceding year, but the disease was never epidemic, the cases occurring throughout the year never in large numbers, but with a steady persistence. The same thing, evidently, occurred in the surrounding districts, as the number of outside district cases admitted to the Hospital rose from 70 in 1933 to 177 in 1934.

The percentage of Return Cases remains satisfactorily low.

A number of cases occurred in the Essex County Hospital and 25 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. The majority of these were still suffering from some other illness or injury and among them were cases of Fracture (3), Mastoid Abscess (2),

Appendectomy (3), Arthritis (2), Arterial or Heart Disease (3), Pneumonia, Duodenal Ulcer, Infantile Paralysis (1 each), and Abscess (2). In addition, 4 nurses and 1 maid at the General Hospital contracted the disease.

A small outbreak occurred at the Royal Eastern Counties Institution, where 27 inmates and 2 nurses were notified with Scarlet Fever. All were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Seven soldiers of the Garrison suffered from Scarlet Fever, 14 military children and 1 army nurse.

In the Isolation Hospital one nurse caught this disease. At various times throughout the year other infectious diseases developed in children in the Scarlet Fever wards. Upon three separate occasions Chicken-pox developed, which had been contracted before the children's admission. Similarly one case developed Mumps and one developed Whooping Cough. Such secondary infections always cause a great deal of anxiety, and it is satisfactory to report that only one other case of Chicken-pox and one of Mumps arose from these cases.

Full Mastoid operations were required in two instances; one was performed by Mr. Reid and one by Mr. Mackenzie of Ipswich. Both cases made good and uninterrupted recoveries. Three minor operations were also carried out by Mr. Reid.

Three deaths occurred from or during an attack of Scarlet Fever. Two were at the Isolation Hospital: one was a man already suffering from severe Paralysis; the second a young woman in whom Meningitis developed. The third was a severe case of Anæmia in the Essex County Hospital, who developed Scarlet Fever.

The Borough cases of Scarlet Fever were distributed in the Wards, Garrison and Institutions as follows:

North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	Garrison.	Institutions.	Total
21	30	59	54	22	58	= 244

### Diphtheria.

#### BOROUGH CASES—

Notified, 48; not notified, nil	...	...	48
Nursed at home or in other institutions	...	...	6
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	42
Deaths at home or in other institutions	...	...	1
„ in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	1

## CASES FROM OUTSIDE DISTRICTS—

Admitted to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	26
Deaths in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	1
TOTAL CASES ADMITTED TO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...		68
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...		2 = 2.94%

Cases of Diphtheria were more numerous, but even so the number remains low for a Borough of the size of Colchester. The figure would have been a great deal lower had it not been for a small outbreak of 24 cases in the New Town District during August and September. Six cases occurred in Severalls Mental Hospital and were looked after there; one was a severe case in an elderly woman, who died.

Two deaths occurred in the Isolation Hospital. One was a late case in which Tracheotomy was necessary. This relieved the child's condition, but she died three days later of heart failure. The second was a severe and late case from Walton in a boy of 13 years. His condition was almost hopeless at the time of his admission to the hospital.

One Diphtheria case developed Scarlet Fever and another developed Chicken-pox. No further cases arose in the Diphtheria wards from either of these infections.

The Borough cases occurred in the Wards and Institutions as follows :—

North Ward	South Ward	East Ward	West Ward	Garrison	Institutions	Total
—	10	12	5	10	11	= 48

**Enteric Fever.**

## BOROUGH CASES—

Notified, 3; not notified, nil	...	...	...	3
Nursed at home or in other institutions	...	...	...	3
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	nil
Deaths at home or in other institutions	...	...	...	1
„ in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	nil

## CASES FROM OUTSIDE DISTRICTS—

Admitted to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	3
Deaths in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	nil
TOTAL CASES ADMITTED TO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...		3
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...		nil

Three cases of Enteric Fever were notified in the Borough. One of these died in Severalls Mental Hospital. The two others were soldiers nursed in the Military Hospital.

Three cases were admitted to the Hospital from outside the Borough. Two were suffering from Para-typhoid B and one from true Typhoid. All made good recoveries.

### **Pneumonia.**

#### **TOTAL BOROUGH CASES—**

Cases notified, 77 ; not notified, 19	...	...	96
NUMBER OF CASES OCCURRING IN GARRISON OR INSTITUTIONS			48
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS	...	...	39

These 96 cases were distributed in the Wards and Institutions in the Borough as follows :

North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	Institutions.	Garrison.
7	6	19	16	46	2

There was not a large number of cases of Pneumonia during the year and the number of deaths from this cause was considerably lower than in the two previous years. This is largely accounted for by there having been little or no Influenza in the Borough.

### **Cerebro-spinal Fever.**

#### **BOROUGH CASES—**

Cases notified, 2 ; not notified, nil	...	...	2
Cases occurring in the Garrison	...	...	1
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	2
Nursed at home or in other Institutions	...	...	nil
Number of Deaths ...	...	...	1

#### **CASES FROM OUTSIDE DISTRICTS—**

Admitted to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	nil
Deaths in the Isolation Hospital	...	...	nil
TOTAL CASES ADMITTED TO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...	...	2
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL	...	...	1

Only two cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified in the Borough and both were removed to the Isolation Hospital. One, a baby of seven months died, on the day of admission ; the other, a soldier, had a definite attack and recovered.

No cases were sent to the Hospital from the outside Districts.



### **Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.**

One case of Encephalitis Lethargica was notified from the General Hospital.

No cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified.

### **Erysipelas, Malaria, Dysentery.**

#### *Erysipelas—*

Borough cases notified, 29 ; not notified, 1	...	30
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	3
Deaths ...	...	2
Total Cases admitted to the Hospital	...	3
Deaths in Isolation Hospital	...	nil

Seventeen of the 30 cases occurred in Institutions.

One of the cases in the Isolation Hospital developed in a woman suffering from Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Erysipelas was double that of 1933. Only 3 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital and all made good recoveries. Two deaths from Erysipelas occurred in the General Hospital, both were elderly debilitated patients.

One case of *Malaria* was notified. He was an officer who had contracted the disease abroad.

A soldier with *Dysentery* was notified.

### **Measles and Whooping Cough.**

Very few cases of both these diseases were notified in 1933, but the numbers increased considerably in 1934. In spite of this there were very few deaths from either of these diseases, no children dying from Measles and only 3 from Whooping Cough.

The death shown as from Measles in the Tables earlier in this Report, occurred in a child in hospital for light treatment in London and Measles was contracted there, but the death is counted as a Colchester Death under the regulations of the Registrar General.

### **Miscellaneous Cases admitted to the Hospital.**

Three nurses were admitted to the Hospital suffering from Tonsillitis; two from the Isolation Hospital and one from the Maternity Home. Another nurse was warded with Acute Nephritis—she made an excellent recovery.



Six patients were diagnosed as suffering from Septic or Toxic Rashes. Three were from the Royal Eastern Counties' Institution and were rightly sent to the Isolation Hospital in case some infectious disease might be developing. Another was a soldier with a doubtful rash, thought perhaps to be Scarlet Fever, and another a woman sent in as a case of Puerperal Fever, but this condition was not present. The last was a child with a toxic rash after a burn, sent in from the Essex County Hospital.

A woman was sent in as a severe case of Diphtheria. She was found to have Acute Septicæmia following a Tonsillar Abscess from which she died.

A case considered to be Encephalitis Lethargica was diagnosed as Mild Hysteria.

Two cases sent in as Diphtheria were found in one case to be Acute Bronchitis and in the other severe German Measles.

A suspected case of Small-pox was found to be suffering from Chicken-pox.

### Tuberculosis.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
2-4	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...
5-9	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
10-14	...	2	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
15-19	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
20-24	...	5	4	3	1	3	2	1	...
25-34	...	5	14	...	3	5	3	...	...
35-44	...	3	3	...	...	3	1	...	...
45-54	...	...	1	...	...	4	2	...	...
55-64	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards...	...	3	1	...	..	1	2	...	...
Totals	...	22	25	10	7	20	10	4	...

There were 30 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 4 from other forms of the disease, or 34 deaths from Tuberculosis of all forms.

Six persons died from Tuberculosis who had not been previously notified.

The percentages of cases that have died of Tuberculosis during the past five years, without having been previously notified, were—

1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
15	21	5	11	17

The total number of cases each year is shown in the Tuberculosis Register, and the totals each year for the past five years have been—

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Pulmonary Cases	223	218	211	187	178
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	94	87	80	73	70

The steady fall in the numbers of all forms of Tuberculosis since 1930 should be noted. The campaign against this terrible disease makes slow but steady progress. No spectacular fall in either death-rate or incidence followed the institution of Sanatorium Benefit, but Sanatorium Treatment, helped by many general Public Health Measures, is gradually overcoming this captain of the men of death.

*Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925,  
Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.*

No action was found necessary under either of the above powers.

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HEALTH OFFICES,

TRINITY STREET.









